GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1995
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
LITERACY MISSION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the literacy mission has failed to attain its objectives as reported in the Hindustan dated December 21, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has identified the factors responsible for failure thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. A. A. FATMI)

(a) & (b): The objective of the National Literacy Mission is to impart functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15-35 age group. 597 districts of the country have been covered under various literacy programmes under which 124.27 million people have been made literate so far. Though the present literacy rates are not yet available, however, according to 2001 census, there has been a significant rise of 12.63% in the literacy rate in the country, which has been the highest decadal increase so far.

(c) to (e); Do not arise. However, the strategies adopted under the National Literacy Mission have tried to focus on the critical areas like low female literacy and residual illiterates in the country from time to time. For this purpose, special literacy programmes focused on illiterate women in the low female literacy districts particularly in the states of UP,Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa and special literacy drive in 150 districts of the country, which have the lowest literacy rate, have been taken up.